



C A L I F O R N I A D E P A R T M E N T O F

# Mental Health

[www.dmh.ca.gov](http://www.dmh.ca.gov)

## CONTINUOUS EXAMINATION OPEN SPOT FOR ATASCADERO, COALINGA, METROPOLITAN, NAPA AND PATTON STATE HOSPITALS

### PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN (SAFETY)

The Department of Mental Health is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer committed to ensuring the rights of every applicant and employee to work in an environment free from unlawful discrimination and harassment and without regard to race, color, sex/pregnancy, gender, age, religion, marital status, national origin, ancestry, disability, medical condition, political affiliation or opinion, or sexual orientation.

It is the objective of the State of California to achieve a drug-free state workplace. Any applicant for State employment will be expected to behave in accordance with this objective because the use of illegal drugs is inconsistent with the law of the State, the rules governing civil service, and the special trust placed in public servants.

#### EXAMINATION TYPE

This is an open examination for the Department of Mental Health, Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa and Patton State Hospitals. Examination and/or Employment Applications will not be accepted on a promotional basis. Career credits do not apply.

#### HOW TO APPLY

Please submit an Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) form to the address indicated below. **DO NOT SUBMIT EXAMINATION AND/OR EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION FORMS TO THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD.**

**NOTE:** All Examination and/or Employment Application forms must include: "to" and "from" dates (month/day/year); time base; and civil service class titles. Examination and/or Employment Application forms received without this information will be rejected. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of a completed Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) form.

#### WHERE TO APPLY

MAIL OR HAND DELIVER EXAMINATION AND/OR EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION FORMS TO:

**ATASCADERO STATE HOSPITAL  
EMPLOYMENT OFFICE  
PO BOX 7005  
ATASCADERO, CA 93423-7001  
(805) 468-3384**

**COALINGA STATE HOSPITAL  
SELECTION SERVICES UNIT  
PO BOX 5002  
COALINGA, CA 93210  
(559) 935-4305/ TDD (559) 935-7120**

**METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL  
SELECTION SERVICES UNIT  
11401 SOUTH BLOOMFIELD AVENUE  
NORWALK, CA 90650  
(562) 651-3121 / TDD (800) 735-2929**

**NAPA STATE HOSPITAL  
PERSONNEL OFFICE  
2100 NAPA-VALLEJO HIGHWAY  
NAPA, CA 94558  
(707) 253-5611**

**PATTON STATE HOSPITAL  
HUMAN RESOURCES-EXAM/HIRING  
3102 EAST HIGHLAND AVENUE  
PATTON, CA 92369  
(909) 425-7000 / TDD (909) 862-5730**

**Testing for Department of Mental Health: [Salinas Valley Psychiatric Program](#), [Stockton Psychiatric Program](#) and [Vacaville Psychiatric Program](#) is administered multi-departmental with California Correctional Health Care Services. Please go to [http://cphcs.hodesiq.com/bl\\_joblist.asp](http://cphcs.hodesiq.com/bl_joblist.asp) to view the exam and testing information.**

**California Relay for the hearing impaired:**

From a TDD Phone (800) 735-2929

From a Voice Phone (800) 735-2922

**EXAMINATION  
ELIGIBILITY LIMITATION**

A candidate may be tested only once during any testing period with Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa and Patton State Hospitals. The testing period for this classification is once every 12 months. If you have taken an examination for this classification with the Department of Mental Health, Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa or Patton State Hospitals within the last 12 months, you are not eligible to compete in this examination.

Candidates are permitted to participate in an examination with Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa, or Patton State Hospitals and an examination with Salinas Valley Psychiatric Program, Stockton Psychiatric Program or Vacaville Psychiatric Program within a 12-month period.

**FINAL FILE DATE**

**CONTINUOUS TESTING – NO APPLICATION DEADLINE.** Testing is considered continuous as examining dates may be set at anytime.

**SPECIAL TESTING  
ARRANGEMENTS**

If you have a disability and need special testing arrangements, mark "yes" on Question #2 on the Examination and/or Employment Application form. The Selection Services Unit will contact you to make special testing arrangements.

**IDENTIFICATION  
REQUIRED**

Note: Accepted applicants are required to bring either a photo identification card or two forms of signed identification to each phase of the examination.

**EXAMINATION DATES**

Qualifications Appraisal: Interviews are scheduled as conditions warrant. Candidates are notified, by mail, a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to their scheduled interview.

**SALARY RANGE**

S: \$4,476 - \$4,814  
T: \$4,627 - \$4,977  
U: \$4,798 - \$5,161

The salaries used in the bulletin may not reflect all pay raises or any additional bonuses. You should verify the salary level(s) with the department personnel office before making any commitments.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR  
ADMITTANCE TO THE  
EXAMINATION**

Your signature on your Examination and/or Employment Application form indicates that you have read, understood, and possess the basic qualifications required.

NOTE: All applicants must meet the education and/or experience requirements for this examination by the testing deadline established by the testing office.

**MINIMUM  
QUALIFICATIONS**

Possession of a valid license to practice as a Psychiatric Technician issued by the BVNPTE. (Applicants who are within four months of completing the Psychiatric Technician curriculum accredited by the BVNPTE will be admitted to the examination, but they must secure this license before they will be eligible for appointment.)

**SPECIAL PERSONAL  
CHARACTERISTICS**

An interest and a willingness to work at a State hospital; understanding of the behavior of forensic clients', patients', or inmates; ability to handle stressful situations; patience; tolerance; alertness; neat personal appearance; and hearing and vision required for successful job performance.

**SPECIAL PHYSICAL  
CHARACTERISTICS**

Possession and maintenance of sufficient strength, agility, and endurance to perform during physically, mentally, and emotionally stressful and emergency situations encountered on the job without endangering the health and well being of the incumbent, fellow employees, forensic clients, patients, inmates, or the public.

**DRUG TESTING  
REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants for positions in this class are required to pass a drug-screening test. Testing of current employees who are applicants in an examination, or who are transferring is permitted only if the person does not have a current appointment to a class for which drug testing is a requirement.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

Incumbents work under general supervision and, in addition to their custody responsibilities, provide a basic level of general behavioral and psychiatric nursing care and are expected through their attitude, knowledge, and performance to facilitate the rehabilitation of forensic clients, patients, or inmates. Incumbents may assist in the training of Psychiatric Technician Trainees and other ancillary staff.

**POSITION LOCATION(S)**

Positions exist at Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa and Patton State Hospitals.

**EXAMINATION  
INFORMATION**

**This examination will consist of a Qualifications Appraisal Interview weighted 100%.** In order to obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum rating of 70% must be attained. **Candidates who do not appear for the interview will be disqualified.**

## EXAMINATION SCOPE

## QUALIFICATIONS APPRAISAL – WEIGHTED 100%

## Knowledge of:

1. Custody procedures and public and property protection policies.
2. Fundamentals of nursing care, general behavioral and psychiatric procedures, forensic client behavior, and mental health principles and techniques involved in the care and treatment of individual or groups of mentally disordered forensic clients.
3. Current first-aid methods.
4. Medical terminology.
5. Pharmacology.
6. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
7. Management Assaultive Behavior techniques.
8. Hospital procedures.

## Ability to:

1. Learn and apply sound judgment for situations including the protection of persons and property.
2. Apply basic nursing knowledge, skills and attitudes.
3. Establish effective therapeutic relationships with mentally disordered forensic clients.
4. Recognize symptoms requiring medical or psychiatric attention.
5. Think and act quickly in emergencies.
6. Work with a treatment team to provide occupational, recreational, vocational and educational therapy programs for forensic clients.
7. Follow directions.
8. Keep appropriate records.
9. Develop clear and concise reports of incidents.
10. Analyze situations accurately and take effective action.

ELIGIBLE LIST  
INFORMATION

Departmental open eligible lists will be established for the Department of Mental Health, Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa and Patton State Hospitals. The eligible lists will be used to fill vacancies at Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa and Patton State Hospitals. Each hospital will establish its own list. Names of successful competitors are merged onto the list in order of final score, regardless of date. Eligibility expires 12 months after it is established, unless the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period.

## VETERANS PREFERENCE

Veteran's preference credit will not be granted in this examination since it does not qualify as an entrance examination under the law.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**For an examination without a written feature** it is the competitor's responsibility to contact the Department of Mental Health, Selection Services Unit at (916) 654-2351 three weeks after the application deadline date if she/he has not received a progress notice.

**If a competitor's notice of oral interview** or performance test fails to reach her/him prior to the day of the interview due to a verified postal error, she/he will be rescheduled upon written request.

**Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) forms are available** at the State Personnel Board, local offices of the Employment Development Department, the Department of Mental Health, and accessible on the internet at [www.spb.ca.gov](http://www.spb.ca.gov).

**If you meet the requirements** stated on this bulletin, you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. Competitors who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

**The Department of Mental Health** reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs of the service if the circumstances under which this examination was planned change. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service law and rules and all competitors will be notified.

**Examination Locations:** When a written test is part of the examination, it will be given in such places in California as the number of competitors and conditions warrant. Ordinarily oral interviews are scheduled in Sacramento. However, locations of interviews may be extended as conditions warrant.

**Eligible Lists:** Eligible lists established by competitive examination, regardless of date, must be used in the following order: 1) subdivisional promotional, 2) departmental promotional, 3) multidepartmental promotional, 4) servicewide promotional, 5) departmental open, 6) open. When there are two lists of the same kind, the older must be used first. Eligible lists will expire in one to four years unless otherwise stated on this bulletin.

**General Qualifications:** Competitors must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment and ability to work cooperatively with others; and a state of health consistent with the ability to perform the assigned duties of the class. A medical examination may be required. In open examinations, investigation may be made of employment records and personal history and fingerprinting may be required.

**Veterans' Preference:** California law limits the granting of veterans preference credits to entrance examinations. Veterans, widows, widowers, and the spouse of a disabled veteran may qualify for veterans' preference credits in Open entrance examinations (15 points for disabled veteran; 10 points for other veterans). Applicable points will be added to the final score of all candidates who are successful in this examination, and who qualify for, and have requested these points. Due to changes in the law, which were effective January 1, 1996, **CURRENT CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE ACHIEVED PERMANENT CIVIL SERVICE STATUS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE VETERANS' PREFERENCE CREDITS.** Directions on how to apply for veterans' preference credits are on the Veterans' Preference Application Form (Form 1093) which is available from State Personnel Board Offices, written test proctors, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, P.O. Box 942895, Sacramento, CA 94295-0001.

**High School Equivalence:** Equivalence to completion of the 12th grade may be demonstrated in any one of the following ways; 1) passing the General Education Development (GED) Test; 2) completion of 12 semester units of college-level work; 3) certification from the State Department of Education, a local school board, or high school authorities that the competitor is considered to have education equivalent to graduation from high school; or 4) for clerical and accounting classes, substitution of business college work in place of high school on a year-for-year basis.

**Career Credits:** In open, nonpromotional examinations, career credits are granted to: 1) State employees with permanent civil service status, 2) full-time employees of the State who are exempt from State civil service pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution, and who meet all qualification requirements specified by the Board and have 12 consecutive months of service in an exempt position, and 3) individuals who have served one full year in, or are graduates of, the California Conservation Corps (eligibility shall expire 24 months after graduation from the California Conservation Corps). Three points are added to the final test score of those candidates who meet the above criteria, and who are successful in the examination. Such examinations cannot be for managerial positions described in Government Code 3513. Competitors not currently employed in State civil service who have mandatory reinstatement rights may also be eligible for career credits, but they must explain their civil service status in the appropriate section of the Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) form. (Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution is posted at the State Personnel Board, 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.)

### DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

1600 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

TDD is a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf and is reachable only from phones equipped with a TDD Device.

From TDD Phones: 1-800-735-2929

From Voice Phones: 1-800-735-2922

For information on the testing for the Psychiatric Technician (Safety) classification for Salinas Valley Psychiatric Program, Stockton Psychiatric Program or Vacaville Psychiatric Program, please go to:

[www.dmh.ca.gov](http://www.dmh.ca.gov) or <http://cphcs.hodesiq.com/index.asp>